

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 270 - HB 389

March 1, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: By July 1, 2022, requires any person receiving federal or state funded adoption assistance from the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to annually provide DCS with medical records from the adopted child's annual physical examination or similar documentation from a medical or mental health professional or verification of full-time school enrollment from the school the child attends.

Authorizes DCS to initiate a visit to ascertain the well-being of the child if the person fails to provide the required documentation.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004174): Deletes and replaces language of the original bill without making any substantive changes to the legislation.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by DCS, there are approximately 1,700 state funded Adoption Assistance (AA) cases and 9,800 AA cases that are federally funded.
- Approximately 10 percent of the state funded cases, or 170 (1,700 x 10.0%), already require annual assessments either via medical documentation for special needs cases or school documentation for cases in which the adoptee is over the age of 18. The remaining 1,530 (1,700 – 170) state funded cases are currently evaluated biannually.
- Currently, the 9,800 federally funded AA cases do not require evaluations, per federal guidelines.
- Passage of the proposed legislation will require annual evaluations for all 9,800 federally funded cases, and 1,530 state funded cases.
- Based on information provided by DCS, the Department will realign staff across divisions to accommodate the increased workload within existing resources; therefore, any fiscal impact to DCS is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and 'S'.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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